

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1904. Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second. Class Mail Matter.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid. DAILY, Per Month. DAILY, Per Year... SUNDAY, Per Year. DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year DAILY AND F NDAY, Per Month Postage to foreign countries added.

Published by The Sun Printing and Publishing Association at No. 170 Nassau street. In the Borough of Manhattan, New York.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Readers of THE SUN leaving the city can have the Dally and Sunday editions mailed to their addresse may be changed when necessary) for cents a month. Order through your newsdealer

#### An Intelligent Description of Mr. Roosevelt.

or THE SUN, 170 Nassau street.

Some of our esteemed contemporaries have made the interesting discovery that a high opinion of THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S character and characteristics has been expressed by us.

For instance, they find that in June of 1900 THE SUN said of the Governor of New York:

" ROOSEVELT is no hero or genius, but just a fine, brave, hearty, honest, manly fellow, trained in many schools of life, absolutely democratic, absolutely American, ambitious with a high ambition and having a singular gift for inspiring a personal liking or disliking, as the case may be. There is nothing of the dummy or wax figure about him. You may swear by him or you may swear at him. but you can't be indifferent about him. He owes almost as much to his enemies as to his friends. Newspapers have tried to write him down. He has been sneered at, jumped upon, anathematized. He never held any but subordinate offices until he was Governor, and yet by perseverance, by industry, by main pluck and essential energy, he became a leading figure in the public eye, a man to be reckoned with. Reformers and machinists have had their quarrels with him. Mugwump and unregenerate fists have been shaken in his face. All the time he has been pegging away at something worth doing, and has tried to do it well, whether he was writing books, or legislating at Albany, or cowpunching, hunting mountain sheep or spoilsmen or Spaniards."

It gives us pleasure to reproduce this little tribute. We have said practically

the same thing often. The personal sketch of Mr. ROOSEVELT presented above seems to us to require | former there is no discouragement. revision in only a single particular. If we were rewriting the same, in the light of his subsequent career, we think we should give him credit for the possession of a somewhat more of that indefinable quality which people call genius.

That he is a man to be reckoned with is a fact now beyond the possibility of reasonable doubt.

#### Will Judge Parker's Friends Assail the Two-thirds Rule?

Of late, since it was seen to be probable, if not certain, that Mr. HEARST and Mr. BRYAN would fail to secure a third of the delegates to St. Louis, there has been comparatively little discussion of the expediency of abolishing the twothirds rule, which for some sixty years has been observed in Democratic national edge or suspicion that influential memto block the nomination of Judge PARKER is said to have caused the friends of the New York candidate to consider seriously the policy of abrogating the traditional prescription. Whether the change ought to be made and whether it can be made are obviously two different questions.

The statement imputed to Senator GORMAN that in every case when a candidate has demonstrated the possession of an indisputable majority he has subsequently secured the prescribed two-thirds of a national convention, is not confirmed by a review of the history of the Democratic party. As we have formerly pointed out, it is undeniable that MARTIN VAN BUREN had a majority of the Democratic national convention in 1844, and that the followers of STEPHEN A. Douglas showed themselves equally preponderant when in 1860 the Democratic national convention met at Charleston. Mr. GORMAN has since revised his assertion, and now says that a two-thirds vote has always been secured by a candidate who could control a majority of the delegates-provided that the majority included most of the representatives of States known to be habitually Democratic. In this form the statement is indisputable. It was mainly the delegates from Southern Democratic States that set their faces like flint against VAN BUREN in 1844 and against Douglas sixteen years later.

Nor are we disposed to question the soundness of Mr. GORMAN's dictum that, as a matter of wisdom, of foresight and to put forward a nominee whose macannot be counted on to give him their electoral votes. The broad principle here enunciated is, of course, as applicable to Republican as to Democratic conventions. It would be foolhardy, if not suicidal, for a Republican convention to readily obtainable. nominate a candidate whose narrow majority on the decisive ballot should have been composed to an important extent of delegates from States in the solid South which the nominee would not have the faintest hope of carrying. It is at the same time conceivable that in a Democratic convention the representatives of States normally Republican might yet, owing to their proximity to doubtful states, be better qualified than Southern Democrats to designate the candidate most likely to carry the pivotal Common-

We admit, then, that there is something to be said for the retention of the two-thirds rule on the ground now occupied by Senator GORMAN, that the States which must be relied upon to furnish the bulk of the electoral votes needed for victory should be allowed to exercise a veto on the selection of a nominee for the Presidency. We also concede a Those who oppose such an innovation | tically. Even if every such equipment |

go on to argue that if the two-thirds rule be abrogated logic demands the abolition of the unit rule also. For at all events, they say, you must acknowledge that if the fundamental purpose of national conventions is not to be frustrated, the ostensible majority ought to be a real majority. This, obviously, might not be the case if a nomination were effected by a narrow majority; for under the unit rule all the delegates of a given State might have been recorded for the nominee, although notoriously some of them might privately have expressed a decided preference for some other candidate.

No doubt, whether the two-thirds rule

s retained or abolished, the Southern Democrats, who have been aroused by the insertion of a race issue plank in the Republican platform to a realization of the magnitude of their stake in the coming contest, will pay earnest and anxious attention to the assertions and predictions of delegates from those Northern States without whose cooperation they cannot hope to defeat the Republican nominee. Naturally, they will be disposed to regard the declarations of such delegates as prima facie expert testimony. From this point of view the fact that the delegations from the pivotal States of New York, Connecticut and Indiana have been instructed for Chief Judge PARKER constitutes, at first sight, weighty argument in his favor. Unfortunately for the durability of the first impression, it turns out, on close scrutiny, that the candidate named at Albany is vehemently opposed in that section of the Empire Commonwealth upon which the Democratic nominee must depend for victory in that State. According, moreover to the admissions of many Indiana delegates, if the convention of the Hoosier State were to be held to-morrow it would proclaim unmistakably a preference, not for Judge PARKER, but for ex-President CLEVELAND.

Whether this question is academic or practical will be made known in the course of a few days. None of the instructions given for PARKER authorizes the abolition of the two-thirds rule.

## Increasing and Decreasing Exports.

The Department of Commerce and Labor reports a continuing decrease in our export of agricultural products and an increase in our export of manufactures. In the latter of these items there is distinct encouragement, and in the

That our export of agricultural products should show a decrease is not at all surprising. It is probable that the future will show still further reduction. The quantity of such products increases from year to year, but does not quite keep pace with the increase in home demand. That we are not piling up an unsalable surplus for lack of a foreign market is clearly shown in the ruling prices for such commodities. No people in the country to-day are in better shape than the farmers. Their crops find a market and prices are good. So long as that condition continues, lessened exports of farm products are no cause for uneasiness.

The situation in the department of manufacturing industries reverses that of the agricultural. Our facilities for conventions. Now, however, the knowl- production are outstripping our power of domestic consumption Therefore. bers of the conservative wing of the the increase in export of such wares Democracy are relying upon the rule can only be gratifying. Details of the special products in which an increase is shown are not at hand. Yet this is a point of very great importance. If the increase appears only in such items as copper ingots, sawed lumber, and mineral oil, all of which are classed as manufactured products, there is less reason for jubilation than there would be if it consisted of cotton goods, boots and shoes, agricultural implements, machinery and tools, and other articles whose production calls for a wider measure of mechanical treatment.

It is the foreign market for such wares as these that we most need and which we soon must have if we would continue to furnish a home market for the products of field and farm. Overloaded shelves, storerooms and warehouses inevitably mean idle wheels and engines, an army of unemployed and curtailed purchasing power.

We are now equipped to manufacture more than we can use, although thus far we have absorbed all except an insignificant percentage of the output of our shops, mills and factories. The ever increasing need of larger markets abroad for our manufactured products is generally recognized.

# Steamboats and Excursions.

Our correspondent of to-day who puts at least a part of the blame for the Slocum disaster on the organizers of the excursion has much reason on his side.

That catastrophe has started a new and a great demand for life preservers. equity, a national convention ought not | and there is to be a new inspection of steamboats, with special reference to jority is mainly or largely made up of their equipments for safety. Since its delegates from States which notoriously awful lesson passengers on steamboats are observing the addition of new facilities for reaching and utilizing the supply of life preservers, heretofore usually kept in places beyond the reach of passengers or where at least they are not

All this is well. So also is the demand for provisions which shall render lifeboats of service, so that they may be launched quickly in an emergency, instead of being secured, as now, in a way which makes their use almost or entirely impracticable.

When all those precautions are taken however, and the crews of the boats, usually mere stevedores, are more frequently and shoroughly instructed by fire drills in the use of the applicances against fire, there will be some improvement in the measure for the safety of passengers. But it will be slight, relatively.

First, the construction of nearly every steamboat used for excursions and even for general travel renders it peculiarly liable to danger from fire. It is generally of light and easily inflammable wood, and when any considerable fire is started the provisions for safety certain force to another objection to a in the way of life preservers, lifeboats departure from the traditional usage. and fire drill amount to very little prac-

and every regulation on the Slocum had been in perfect condition and thoroughly enforced, the destruction of life by the quickly spreading fire would have been appalling, and it is questionable if the result would not have been as disastrous as it was under the conditions existing.

Putting through the fire drill the small crews which such boats carry is all very well, and in ordinary circumstances i may prove an effectual measure of precaution, if the safety appliances are sufficient in number and in proper order; but how about the passengers on a crowded boat under such conditions as those encountered on the Slocum? If the fire drill is to be effective, not merely the crew, but also the passengers must be instructed in it and brought under something like military discipline. The small number of the crew, no matter how well drilled, would be powerless to bring into order a panic-stricken crowd like that on the Slocum. Experience in the public schools proves that the youngest children can be familiarized with a fire drill till they attain a perfection of discipline military in its

completeness; but, of course, there are

no opportunities for such a drill of an

excursion party of children huddled

together on an inflammable steamboat. The only measure of safety at all complete is in keeping such a crowd from a steamboat, on which they are embarked not of necessity, but purely for pleasure. At the bottom, therefore, the responsibility rests, as our correspondent contends, on the organizers of such an excursion. They subject the children and their parents and guardians to too great risks. If they crowded them into a building on land equally liable to fire they would be held reprehensible, and the law steps in to prevent their doing it. The statutory provisions requiring sufficient aisle space and other reasonable and necessary precautions are not enforced on these excursions. The passengers, young and old, are packed together on the decks till movement among them is next to impossible. Of course, if anything happens to provoke excitement a panic is easily generated and no equipment, no lifeboats, no life preservers and no fire drill on the boat can prevent the consequences.

The committee or committees of the Lutheran Sunday school which organized the excursion on the Slocum are not specially liable to blame for subjecting their charges to dangers so terrible. They did as well as such committees usually do. No such excursion party should be subjected to such perils, no matter how complete the fire and life saving equipment of the steamboat. Barges sufficient in size or in number to provide accommodations without crowding should always be used and thus the element of danger reduced to a minimum.

## Water and Oil.

The Prohibitionists at their national convention in Indianapolis on Thursday, presided over by a chairman from Lincoln. Neb., nominated for President the excellent Dr. SWALLOW. The candidate for Vice-President is GEORGE WASHING-TON CARROLL of Texas. He hails from Beaumont, the continuous oil duct, and megaphone of the Lone Star State, Cy-

clone DAVIS In order to be in the style of the day, the Prohibitionists adopted a strenuous platform and gave enduring proof of their incorrigible ignorance of actual politics by choosing one of their candidates from the State which gives the largest Republican, and the other from the State which gives the largest Democratic, majorities-Pennsylvania and

Texas, respectively. SILAS SWALLOW is no stranger to Prohibition or to Prohibitionists. He come from Harrisburg, and first gained recognition in politics by articles "exposing" Pennsylvania politicians. Soon afterward he became a candidate for office himself. and under conditions unusual in Pennsylvania polled a surprisingly large vote, over 100,000, for State Treasurer in 1897. The year following Dr. SWALLOW ran for Governor and again polled a very large vote, due rather to local conditions than to any growth in popularity or acceptance of Prohibition principles. At the last election in Pennsylvania the Prohibitionists polled their usual vote-

Dr. SWALLOW was a candidate for the Presidential nomination of the Prohibitionists four years ago, but was defeated by JOHN G. WOOLLEY of Chicago, known as the "DANIEL WEBSTER of Prohibition." Subsequently Dr. SWALLOW was named for the Vice-Presidency on the Prohibition ticket, an honor which he declined.

What effect the campaign for SWALLOW and CARROLL will have on the future of Prohibition no prophet can say, but that the Prohibitionists will carry neither Pennsylvania nor Texas may as well be admitted now.

# Industrial Trouble in Canada.

A Toronto despatch says that the belief is growing, even among the best friends of the enterprise, that the Dominion Iron and Steel Company will have to undergo drastic reorganization before it can be placed on a paying basis. The despatch continues:

" It is said that some of the directors recognize this fact and have discussed the question pretty fully, though they have decided upon nothing definite. A scaling down of the capital is one of the proposals, however, involving a probable re tirement of the entire issue of common stock. " 'The new Piciding tariff will not save the com-

pany from the inevitable reorganization,' said a holder of the stock. 'It will help a great deal though, and should assist the company greatly after they have put their finances in better shape that is, of course, if the "dumping" measure really does not prove too radical to be enforceable. " If it works out all right the Canadian iron and steel industry will enjoy a threefold protection

against outside competition, and if the various

companies are then not able to produce steel at

profit they should all go out of business." This company began its operations n 1891, with a capital of \$15,000,000. It has developed into an institution equipped to handle about 400,000 tons of iron and steel annually. Although aided by liberal bounties which supplemented a protective tariff, its realizations have come far short of its ambitions, and the enter-

prise has been for some time in a dis- IN THE LAND OF THE SMOKE B. R. T. ENDS NASSAU ROAD LEASE.

ouraging condition. The theory that Canada has or can obtain cheaply an unlimited supply of iron ore, coal, and limestone, and that a modest degree of protection could and should enable her to supply at least her home demand for steel rails, rods, bars, billets and structural iron, has not yet The found practical demonstration. Soo" property went to pieces and has recently been reorganized, with a heavily scaled capital, to make a new attempt

at profitable operation. That and the Dominion plant at Sydney are the two enterprises on which Canada now rests her hope of independence in the iron and steel industry. For neither of these enterprises is the mmediate outlook remarkably encour-

aging. Their success evidently depends upon a high and perhaps unwise protection backed by liberal bounties. Their failure might force Canada to a complete revision of her entire fiscal policy.

## Horrors of War in New York Bay.

The statement of the officer commanding at Fort Wadsworth as to the safety of vessels passing through the Narrows while target practice is in progress at the fort ought to be accepted as reassuring. In all probability, however, persons who hear now and then a shell shrieking past a best at a distance of not more than a hundred yards will think the boat has had a narrow escape. It is natural that very few persons should have any knowledge of the mathematical accuracy of great gun firing from a fixed base.

It does not occur to them that the weapon cannot waver or slip after it is once pointed. It is not like a rifle in the hands of a soldier. The aiming of a big gun from a fort is a matter of scientific calculation; and when the range has been ascertained, the gun is pointed and held firmly in position while it is fired. While the shell is passing from the muzzle of the gun to the target it soars through the air for three-fourths of the distance at a height much above that of any steamboat plying in the bay.

As Col. RICHMOND has truthfully said, the Monmouth or any other boat passing down toward Atlantic Highlands is perfectly safe as long as she remains in the channel. The position of danger is near the target or up in the air in the course of the shell. Airships have not yet begun to run on passenger business. When they do, target practice may be more dangerous to travellers than it is now. At present nerves may be troubled by the uncanny shriek of a shell, which at a hundred yards seems to be close enough to make a perceptible breeze, but no other damage will be done. This alarm breaks out every summer, but no one has yet experienced any of the horrors of war except the noise.

Ex-Senator Thurston said it was not fitting that the Republican campaign should open "with a rush and a roar." but it should commence and finish in the thought and quiet and sanctity of the American fireside, where the great problems of citizenship and statesmanship are always most safely worked out." The opening campaign meeting in the Cooper Union on Thursday evening seems to have taken its keynote has the oratorical backing of the political from Mr. Thursron, and yet this is not weather for fireside musings.

#### A Catholic Priest on the Perfection of Which Christ Spoke.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: One of your correspondents thinks that Christ said "Be perfect." What Christ said was: "Be ye therefore perfect, as your heavenly Father (Matthew v., 48)-something quite different. "Therefore" indicates a conclusion. This

exhortation flows from and sums up what has just been said. Christ has just corrected the false that men should love their friends but not their enemies. He tells his hearers that they must love their enemies, do good to them. pray for them. He reminds them that their heavenly Father sends sun and rain on both

good and bad. If they wish to be His children they must imitate Him in this, loving and doing good to all mankind. Their love, like God's, must be catholic or universal,-(Matthew v., 43-47.) In Christ's premises there is nothing but the extent of God's love, so nothing else must be put in His conclusion (Matthew v. 48) Be perfect," in Matthew v., 48, means be per spoken, the extent of your love (not its intensity or anything eise. If no one is excluded from our love, our love is co-extensive with God's. This is possible and necessary. As commonly understood, Christ's exhortation

As commonly understood, Christ's exhortation is nonsensical.

The word "perfect" is misleading. It is the all-comprehensive word. What is wanted is an all-extensive word. The thought here is unrestricted or world-wide love of mankind. Be catholic, is good: but be catholic or universal, must have "in your love" added in order to make it intelligible. Be altruistic, will not do; it is not quite the idea. We are very much in need of a good translation of this verse.

POCANTICO HILLS, June 28.

The Normal School and New York's Teachers. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: By the decision handed down by Justice Greenbaum, there seems to be a question as to whether the graduate York schools. This is a very serious matter, as the college was originally instituted for the express purpose of providing an education for girls of the poor or middle classes, to enable them to earn a livelihood by teaching. Within the past few years this purpose seems to have been diverted, the object now being to furnish a free education for the rich. If its graduates cannot teach, there s no excuse for its existence; and the immense outused to better advantage in equipping more ele-

mentary schools. mentary schools.

For forty years children in public schools have been creditably and faithfully taught by Normal graduates. Before the cra of fantastic education arrived, with departmental work, basket weaving sewing and embroidery for boys, tying sailor knots jig dancing, &c., the daughters of citizens and tax avers of New York were deemed fully competen to educate the young in their own schools. It was unnecessary to scour this country and Canada fo faddists to fatten on our \$13,000,000 budget. The present condition of affairs would not be olerated in any other first-class American city. will stand for anything. In my opinion the entire ough overhauling cational system needs a tho

# Excursion Committees Blamed.

TO THE EDITOR OF TRE SUN-Sir: In consider-ing the Slocum calamity it seems to me that the per's jury should have had some word of col for the officers and teachers of the Su testimony it appears that there was no organized mittee to look out for the safety of the childre When the trouble came there were no officials to control and discipline the little ones. Even if ther had been a full supply of perfect life preservers there would have been no officials to adjust them

o the women and children.

Committees in charge of Sunday school and other pionics run them to make a profit. There fore, they sell all the tickets they possibly can, and as a consequence the steamboats are generally overcrowded. The Slocum disaster should teach mittees that their responsibility do end when they have huddled on board the boats the crowds of women and children to whom they GRORGE H. WRIGHT.

Most Tibetans would not know what was neant if they should hear the term Tibetans applied to themselves. They would not understand if they should hear their country called Tibet. Dr. Egli in his Nomina Geographica" says they speak of their lofty plateau as Bod-yul, which means the Land of the Bod or "The People." Thus even in their name these most ex clusive of Asiatics show that they have for many centuries regarded themselves

as the preeminent people of the earth. Dr. Emil Schlagintweit, the famous ex plorer of Asia, says that Tibet is known as Bod-yul throughout the whole of Central Asia. The word Tibet seems to have been introduced from China and the forms Tiba and Tobbat are found in Marco Polo, while Tebet was used by writers a little later.

The inhabitants of the southern mountains where the British under Gen. Mac-Donald are now in camp at Gyangise are known throughout Tibet as the Bod-ud or smoke People. They live in houses from which smoke ascends, and they are thus called to distinguish them from the nomads of the northern plains who live in tents The Smoke People are most immediately oncerned in the present operations of the

British It may be true, as reported from Gyangtse that the Tibetans have sent in a flag of truce asking an armistice until the arrival at Shigatse, a town about sixty miles to the northwest of the British camp, of officials from Lhasa, who will be authorized to negotiate with the invading expedition; but i is by no means certain that the Governmen Lhasa means anything more serious than a desire to gain a little time. It remains to be seen whether the Tibetans will consent to make concessions as long as the Frand Lama is in his palace and Lhasa is

Chinese influence is not likely to help the Tibetans much in the present emergency The Amban (a Manchu word), or representative of the Pekin Government at Lhasa, was reported a few weeks age to have washed his hands of all responsi bility and to have said that he had no in fluence with the Tibetan Government This may be true; at least it agrees per ectly with what Dr. Schlagintweit has written of the position and influence of the hinese resident in Lhasa.

He says China has long made the misake of sending men of bad character to represent the Imperial Government libet. Appointment to the office of Ambar regarded in China as a punishment and decree of exile. The Pekin Government places strict limitations upon the power of the Amban, and in some relations with the Lhasa officials he is made subordinate to the Governor of the Szechuan province of China. The Tibetans know this, and the fact inspires contempt for the office and its occupant. Dr. Schlagintweit says urther that the Amban has the hatred of the entire people because they have to pay his salary and the wages of his Manchu podyguard. Whenever he travels, he is surrounded by this guard, numbering, according to the German explorer, over .400 Manchus. The Tibetan settlements are especially assessed to defray the expenses of these peregrinations. The time was when the Amban was a person of great consequence in Tibet, but Dr. Schlagintweit says that he no longer inspires respect or fear in the monasteries, the centres of influence and power, or among the com-

mon people. The Tibetans, according to the sam authority, have an army of only 6,000 men, half of whom, in time of peace, live at home and pursue their ordinary vocations They have been armed only with a few flintlocks, besides lances and swords, but latterly have acquired some Russian guns, and are now said to be manufacturing a rough sort of firearms at Lhasa. The only cannon in their hands are two antiquated specimens at Gyangtse, which place the British have occupied. The Tibetans regarded this town, with its forty-five monasteries, as their chief defence on the highway to Lhasa. Here were the fifty Chinese soldiers in their service, the "Banner" infantry their cavalry and two cannon. The Tibetans fought hard, but the British marched in with a loss of only five men killed and six wounded. The fall of Gyangtse into the hands of the enemy has undoubtedly intensified more than any other event the

anxiety of the natives. At least one desirable result will come out of this campaign, and that is a better map of the southern mountains and the high plateau and ranges between the mountains of the South and the upper Brahmaputra River. Geographic progress has been painfully slow in Tibet, but things are moving there, and an enterprising German publisher has already issued a map of southern Tibet containing interesting information that has not before been recorded on the maps.

# Blaine's Letter to Conkling in 1884.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It is in the recollection of every one that an intense personal leud was on between Blaine and Conkling. It is also in the recollection of every one that Conkling made but two speeches during the Blaine cam-That much was due from him to paign. Why? his party. This happened; Blaine, either from his own inspiration or at the solicitation of friends, wrote a letter to Conkling and intrusted it to the care of his son Walker for delivery to Conkling. Un fortunately, en route, Walker Blaine showed the letter to Steve Elkins, in charge, with Mr. Jones, of the Republican national campaign of that year Elkins suppressed it. Conkling never received it. Suppose he had, and that that peerless, incom parable personality had been thrown into the con est, does any one doubt for whom "Oneida" and the State's majority would have been cast in spite of the "Rum. Romanism and Rebellion" speech. The cold fact of the Burchard episode was that Blaine was standing on the lower step of the stairs, second floor, in the Fifth Avenue Hotel, as Burchard was nearing the close of his speech. To get a better view of those whom he was to address. Blaine turned view of those whom he was to studies, business, around to take his position on the second step. It was while he was thus diverted, that the all was spoken, and he as a matter of fact did not hear Had he heard it, his reply would have been such that there would be no call for this late dis cussion of the incident. NEW YORK, July 1.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I observe in Wednesday's Sun, on the editorial page, a com nunication on the Democratic candidate for President to which you have given a headline " cal Democratic Candidate." Why logical? Is ther anything logical about the party that its candidate should be so? Is Mr. Bryan logical? Is the Kansas Is Mr. Bryan logical? Is the Kansas logical? Is the party logical in any City platform logical? of its acts of recent years?

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Has anybody ontributed that old Kentucky remedy for ivy oisoning to wit, plain ordinary fish brine, appli wo or three times a day? Simply take it ou mackerel kit and wash the affected part with i rently, that's all FIFTH AVENUE HOTEL, June 30.

Political Definitions Johnny-Pa, would you call Roosevelt a wa Pa-No, my son; more of a war-auto.

A Study in St. Louis. To put nice petticoaties On those unclad Igorrotes As yet they're undecided.

# Courts Cannot New Compel Five Cent Fare to Coney Island.

The lease of the Nassau Electric Railroad Company to the Brooklen Heights Railroad Company was terminated at midnight, June 30. Each line will be managed separately. While B. R. T. officers do not say so, the inference is that the change was made to get around the decision of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, which last week decided that the Brooklyn Heights Railroad Company, which was the operating road, must give transfers to passengers at all intersecting points. The opinion was written by Justice John Woodward. It held that even if the cars at the intersecting points belonged to different railroad companies, so long as one was leased by the other transfers must be

Formal announcement of the change was made by President Winter of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company yester-

President Winter was asked what was the reason for the sudden termination of the lease, and in reply said:

"The change was made for ample business reasons and in the interest of both parties, who thought it advisable to end the lease with the end of the fiscal year, which was Wednesday night."

the change made because of the decision of the court regarding rs?" he was asked. "You can draw your own inferences," he replied. "The statement already made speaks for itself."

The lease of the Nassau company to the

Brooklyn Heights company was entered into on April 1, 1900, and was for 999 years. A clause in the lease made it terminable at any time by either party. The terms of the lease guaranteed the bonds of the Nassau company. The officers of the Brooklyn Heights Railroad Company are the officers of the Nassau Electric Railroad

Company. The Nassau railroad runs cars from Park row to Coney Island, and before the lease of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit carried passengers to the seaside for five cents. If the Nassau company maintains the 10 cent fare established by the Brooklyn Rapid Transit it will be necessary for passengers with a grievance to sue it instead of the Brooklyn Heights Railroad.

## MAY PROBATE BURBANK WILL. It Leaves the Property to the Old Man's

Nephews-One Permanently Insane. Surrogate Fitzgerald intimated yesterday at the close of a hearing on the contest over the will of Ambrose B. Burbank that he would admit the will to probate and directed counsel to submit findings and a decree in accordance with such a decision. The will to be admitted is that made in 1889 by the aged Burbank. It gives the bulk of his property to his nephew, Caleb A. Burbank, and leaves \$25,000 to Samuel M. Burbank, the nephew who nursed his M. Burbank, and leaves \$25,000 to Samuel
M. Burbank, the nephew who nursed his
uncle for years. This is the nephew who
attempted suicide two weeks ago by cutting his throat in his lawyer's office. He
is now in a sanitarium. Several doctors
testified yesterday that they believed him
to be permanently afflicted with melanthelic and homistical margin.

choia and homicidal mania.

The contestants, an army of disgruntled nephews and nieces contended that the testator had made a later will which had een either lost or destroyed

#### DIAMOND BADGE FOR CROKER. Fire Department Officers' Present to Chief, Who Is Deeply Affected.

A number of officers of the Fire Depart ment gathered at Fire Headquarters yesterday and told Commissioner Hayes that they wanted to make a present to Chief Edward F. Croker in recognition of his twenty years of service in the department. They showed a handsome gold fire badge with a large diamond in the centre. Word was sent upstairs for the Chief, and, when he went down the Commissioner made a speech and handed him the badge as a token of esteem of the uniformed force.

received the present and expressed his

## HENRY C. PLATT RESIGNS. He Has Been an Assistant U. S. District

Attorney for Eighteen Years. Henry C. Platt of Huntington, L. I., who has been for eighteen years an Assistant United States District Attorney for this district, has resigned on account of ill health. Gen. Henry L. Burnett accepted the resignation yesterday, with the approval of the Department of Justice at Washing-ton. Mr. Platt is an expert in revenue and customs law. He was appointed by William Dorsheimer, the then District Attorney. While the District Attorney's office was for a year without a head Mr. Platt

#### CLIMATE THE TYRANT. A Heated Protest From an Apostle of Unconventionalism.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: That a little folk on a little isle in a paltry forty years should appropriate the cream of our ten thousand years of hardly acquired civilization should give pause for thought. The Japanese are successful because they live close to nature. Climate is the greatest tyrant and destroyer or the greatest builder up and restorer of species and race—the greatest of all empires. Clothing is a part of man's climate. The New York climate is as good climate. as the best. This climate is not at fault-it is the unnatural way people live here.

For summer the thinnest, loosest, fewest clothes possible, to meet stale custom and preserve reasonable racial propriety. As we now dress the skin is kept sodden, as under a per-petual poultice. The blood loafs in it, and petual poultice. The blood loafs in it, and contributes to drunkenness and many grave forms of insanity. All who have survived long tropical stews remember that old thirst and craving for high balls.

Summer clothes should ventilate freely throughout their own texture. Starched summer shirts are purely and simply an invention of the fool killer. The blood vessels of the skin should be kept active, elastic and in full play by the cool tonic effect of plenteous ventilation. A slow blood stream deposits fat as a slow river deposits sand (Ortel); hence the abomination of paunch. Tight laced ankles and tight garters turn a lean shank into rondure and taper. Through common sense and nature we all have ideas and instincts about dress—but mightily man-fearing are we in matters conventional.

Man's hair the year through should be kept one ungraspable military, length, for coolness in summer and to harden the head and its organs against winter's grippe. The Panama without the hot sweat and hat band is the hest bonnet. White ooze, buckram or canvas shoes are coolest, cleanest, cheapest, best looking, easily kept snow white with a white wash. Rubber sneaks soften and tender the feet and weaken the lower leg muscles.

The freaks of fashion in jumping from one

muscles.

The freaks of fashion in jumping from one style to another greatly contribute to life's variety and are not unwholesome—in fact, proper dressing and fashions are blessings because they are indisputably evolutional in nature, and aid in natural selection, when they fit and look right and do not deceive with false hips, shoulders and bosoms. But why can't clothes be as sanitary as beautiful? NEW YORK, July 1. AMON JENKINS.

Menument for the Victims of the Slocum Dis-

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Would it not be fitting to erect a memorial or monument to the tead of the Slocum horror at North Brother Island Let the design be what it may, but of such figure and dimensions that the officers and crews of every craft that floats on the waters of the Sound may have a reminder that "eternal vigilance" of their security. NEW YORK, July 1.

#### Virginia at St. Louis. From the Norfolk Landmark.

We do not think that any mistake was made in electing Mr. Thomas F. Ryan a delegate from Virginia to the St. Louis convention. Mr. Ryan is a man of such prominence that when he says anything it is telegraphed over the country; and he has already begun to talk good, sound Democracy.

TOO LITTLE SPENT ON THE 3 RIS And Too Much on Fancy Studies in the

oots, Grout's Men Report. Comptroller Grout submitted yesterday o the Board of Estimate a book containing he reports of the Finance Department Examiners, who have been investigating the methods of the Board of Education The reports have been published as they were issued. The conclusion reached in all of them is that common studies in the elementary schools have been sacrificed to such special studies as manual and physical training, sewing, cooking and music. The Comptroller's examiners argue that the money expended on these special subjects has been unwarranted, in view of the small results achieved and the consequent curtailing of the common branches f study. In a letter to the Board of Estinate accompanying the reports the Comp-

troller wrote:

As important and popular a branes of the public service as the Department of Education admittedly is, there would nevertheless seem to be no good reason why it should enjoy any immunity from scrupulous observance of the same strict economy in the expenditure of public money as is demanded of other departments. It is doubtful if any one will seriously question the practical wisdom of the recommendation to simplify the course of study prescribed for the elementary schools, and so to modify that course that more time and attention may be paid to the ordinary, fundamental common school branches, and less time and expense devoted to special studies, or of the recommendation that teachers be permitted to do their work with less of annoyance from seemingly needless but expensive supervision. Suggestions made with a view to the adoption of a more prudent and economical policy in the procuring of sites for school-houses appear to have been already productive of beneficial results.

The report was received by the Board of roller wrote:

The report was received by the Board of Estimate without comment. Whatever action it may call forth will be taken when the Board of Education's budget is pre-

#### SEWARD PARK BATHS OPEN. Speechmaking-Will Accommodate 2.500 People a Day.

Thousands of men, women, children and abies assembled in William H. Seward Park last evening to take part in the ceremonies incident to the opening of the new public bath plant situated therein. Park ommissioner Pallas and Borough President Ahearn represented the city, but at the last moment it was decided that an informal good time was better than ceremonies and speeches, so the crowd just enjoyed the concert furnished by Isidor

Kraskin's military band. The baths will be opened for the first ime this morning. They will be open 6 hours a day and it is expected they will ccommodate about 2,500 people in that time, allowing twenty minutes to each person. The baths are in the crypt of the pavilion. The large piasza is strewn with rocking chairs by the hundred for the xclusive use of women with babies, and here is a music stand from which concerts

vill be given once a week. The pavillion with the bath cost \$88,000. There are 30 bathing rooms for men under the south end of the building and 21 rooms for women under the north end. Ten attendants will be kept at work. There will be no ticket system. The bathers will be admitted to the waiting rooms in groups of 21 and 30 respectively, and as fast as the baths are vacated those next in order will have their turn.

will have their turn.

There is absolutely no charge for the baths. The rooms are 3 feet 6 inches wide by 7 feet long, and are divided by a marble semi-partition into a dressing room and the bathing room proper. There are no tubs; the baths are all of the shower vari-

## WAGON COPS KEEP THEIR SNAPS. Grout Against Replacing Them With Civ-

ty and supplied with hot and cold water.

llians-McAdoo Wants More Men. In a discussion yesteday in the Board of Estimate on a proposal to appropriate \$210,000 to enable the Police Commissioner to employ civilians as drivers of patrol gons, thereby releasing many patrol men for regular duty who now have soft snaps as drivers, Mayor McClellan nominated Comptroller Grout for Governor. Mr. Grout opposed the granting of the

appropriation on the ground that if civilians were admitted to the department they would quickly seek to have themselves made members of the uniformed force by legislative action. The Mayor favors the change. He turned to Mr. Grout and said "Well, if such a bill comes up before

he Legislature next year, you, as Governor of the State, can veto it, and when it comes of the State, can veto it, and when it comes before me as Mayor, I will do the same."

Mr. Grout joined heartily in the laugh, but would not withdraw his opposition to the proposal, and it was laid over.

Commissioner McAdoo said, after he learned that his application had not been granted.

granted:
"I am going to ask for 400 more men.
My application for 150 more was approved
by the Mayor on May 10, but the bond issue
for the payment of these extra men has
never, so far as I know, come before the
Board of Estimate. That 150 already granted
and this 400 that I shall ask for Hill make 550 to add to the present force.

#### NEW SANITARY SHAKEUP DUE, Dr. Darlington Likely to Make More Changes in His Force.

The assistant sanitary inspectors in the five boroughs are not yet at rest, though probably they do not know it. Health Commissioner Darlington said yesterday that he would not be at all surprised if there was another shakeup in the department next week. On Tuesday of this week there was an

all around transfer "for the good of the department," but it seems that not every one, including the Commissioner, is satisfied. "Politics does not enter into this at all,"
the Commissioner said yesterday. "The
changes were made purely for departmental reasons and the changes that are ikely to come will be for no other. I am responsible for the showing made by the sanitary superintendents. Consequently I am anxious for the right men to be in the

### right places. It is not true that pressure has been brought to bear on me." GAS CO. GETS ITS CONTRACT. Littleton Voting Against Granting It Without Competition.

The Board of Estimate authorized ves erday the granting of a contract to the consolidated Gas Company for furnishing and lighting Welebach street lamps in Manhattan and The Bronx at \$24.75 a lamp a year. This ends a controversy of nearly two years between the city and the com-

over its rates. ough President Littleton of Brooklyn voted against the authorization, refusing to accept the Corporation Counsel's ruling that the board was not obliged to accept the lowest bid, and declaring that the board had no legal or moral right to enter into a contract for the lighting of The Bronx without a semblance of public letting.

#### New Jersey Owns Land About Ellis Island The Federal Government has recognized New Jersey's claim of ownership of lands under water about Ellis Island by formally applying to the State Board of Riparian Commissioners for a riparian grant. The application was made by William R. Harr,

application was made by william R. Harr, a special assistant to the Attorney-General of the United States, for permission to fill in and extend the island toward the Jersey shore. The State has for many years insisted that it owned the riparian lands in question, but until now the Government never formally recognized this claim. The grant will be made as soon as the Riparian Commissioners determine the price to be charged.